

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FEAE-00 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02

OES-06 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8551

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FROM LOS DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: INFORMAL MEETING OF COMMITTEE II WORKING GROUP
ON DEFINITION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF AND REVENUE SHARING

1. CHAIRMAN AGUILAR AT FIRST MEETING OF WORKING
GROUP ON THE DEFINITION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND REVENUE
SHARING BEYOND THE 200-MILE LIMIT CLARIFIED THAT NAME OF
GROUP DID NOT PREJUDICE THE SCOPE OF THE GROUP'S WORK
(E.G. SOME STATES MIGHT RAISE ISSUE OF REVENUE SHARING
WITHIN 200 MILES).

2. CANADA ARGUED THAT THE GROUP MUST BE REALISTIC AND
NOT REOPEN ISSUES ALREADY NEGOTIATED; TO DWELL ON THESE
ISSUES WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. THE PRINCIPLE OF THE
CONTINENTAL MARGIN BEYOND 200 MILES WAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED,
BUT REVISED SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT WAS NOT COMPLETE AND
NEEDED A PRECISE DEFINITION OF THE LIMITS OF THE MARGIN.

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IT NOTED THAT REVENUE SHARING BEYOND THE 200 MILE LIMIT

SHOULD BE DISCUSSED. ARGENTINA AND OTHER BROAD MARGIN STATE SUPPORTED CANADA. SINGAPORE, PARAGUAY, POLAND, KUWAIT, UGANDA, AND OTHER LANDLOCKED AND GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES (LL/GDS) ARGUED THAT THE VERY PRINCIPLE OF THE MARGIN VIOLATED THE CONCEPT OF THE COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND AND THAT NATIONS HAD ALREADY INFRINGED ON THE RIGHTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BY CLAIMING EXTENDED JURISDICTIONS. IN RESPONSE TO AGUILAR'S SUGGESTION THAT A GROUP OF EXPERTS CONSIDER DLIMITATION OF OUTER EDGE OF MARGIN SENEGAL AND SEVERAL OTHER STATES ARGUED THAT A GROUP OF EXPERTS WOULD WORK AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF THOSE NATIONS NET ENDOWED WITH BROAD MARGINS, SINCE THEY DID NOT HAVE TECHNICAL EXPERTS AND FELT THE EXPERTS WOULD WORK COUNTER TO THE LL/GDS INTERESTS. CHAIRMAN THEN INDICATED VIEWS OF EXPERTS COULD BE PUT FORTH AS PART OF PROCEEDINGS IN NEGOTIATING GROUP AND NOT IN SEPARATE GROUP.

3. PARAGUAY SUGGESTED AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 64: INSERT THE PHRASE "FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PRESENT CONVENTION,..." BEFORE THE PRESENT ARTICLE 64 TEXT. THE AMENDMENT WAS CATEGORIZED AS SELF-EXPLANATORY AND THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION.

4. A CONFUSED AND INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE ON THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE 1958 GENEVA CONTINENTAL SHELF CONVENTION ENSUED.
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